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—	→	Memo + report - J. Edgar Hoover to Sherman Adams	3-4-'53

FINAL ACTIONS:

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NLE DATE 5/10/05



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 4, 1953

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
VIA LIAISON

Honorable Sherman Adams
The Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Adams:

As a matter of possible interest, I am forwarding herewith a summary of information from our files on Charles Wheeler Thayer presently assigned as Consul General of the United States in Munich, Germany.

The majority of this information was obtained during the course of two investigations concerning Thayer which were conducted by this Bureau in 1949. As will be noted in the summary memorandum, one investigation was a Security-type investigation. The other was conducted under the provisions of Executive Order 9835.

This summary, you will note, contains allegations that Thayer, while operating in Italy and Yugoslavia with the Office of Strategic Services during World War II, was pro-Tito and a close associate of the Russians and other Communists. It was thought by some informants that Thayer went far beyond the limits called for in his official capacity in his sympathies and associations while in Yugoslavia. Thayer is also accused of reporting false information regarding the Yugoslav situation at that time.

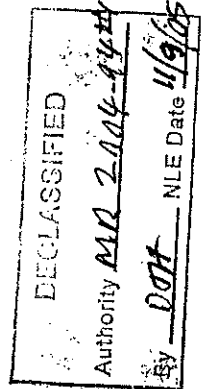
This summary also contains information unfavorable to the moral conduct of Thayer and several of his associates who are identified therein.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure



~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

CHARLES WHEELER THAYER

March, 1953

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
John Edgar Hoover, Director

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

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CHARLES WHEELER THAYER

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I. PERSONAL HISTORY

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CHARLES WHEELER THAYER

I. PERSONAL HISTORY

Charles Wheeler Thayer was born February 9, 1910, at Villanova, Pennsylvania. After completing his course of studies at St. Paul's Preparatory School, Concord, New Hampshire, he entered the United States Military Academy, West Point. He attended this institution from 1929 through 1933 when he received a Bachelor of Science Degree.

After leaving West Point in 1933, Thayer served as a Second Lieutenant, U. S. Cavalry, Fort Myer, Virginia. He resigned his commission the same year to enter the United States State Department Foreign Service, and in March, 1934, he was appointed clerk at the American Embassy, Moscow, Russia. In 1937 he received an appointment as Vice Consul at Moscow, Russia, and later the same year at Berlin, Germany. He was appointed Vice Consul at the U. S. Consulate General, Hamburg, Germany, in 1939 where he remained until February, 1940, when he became Vice Consul - Third Secretary at the U. S. Embassy in Moscow, Russia. In February, 1942, he was transferred to the same position at the U. S. Legation, Kabul, Afghanistan. In 1943 he went to the U. S. Embassy, London, England, where he assumed the duties of Vice Consul - Third Secretary.

On July 24, 1944, Thayer received a temporary appointment as Staff Officer with the Office of Strategic Services and entered on duty as a Major. On November 24, 1944, he received a temporary promotion to Lieutenant Colonel. He married Maria Petrucci in Vienna, Austria, on October 11, 1945. In January, 1946, Thayer was relieved of his OSS duties in Austria and returned to the United States where he was ordered to Tokyo, Japan, and Korea on temporary duty for the War Department Military Government. He was separated from the Armed Forces on March 13, 1946, at Korea and reverted to inactive status on May 5, 1946. On February 12, 1947, he was appointed a Lieutenant Colonel in the Officers Reserve Corps. He received the following decorations and citations: Legion of Merit, Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon, and European Theater Ribbon.

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From March, 1946, to August, 1946, Thayer served as United States Political Advisor with the U.S. - U.S.S.R. Joint Commission, Seoul, Korea. Thereafter he was assigned to the National War College, Washington, D. C., until November 13, 1946, when he was assigned to the International Broadcasting Division, Office of the Associate Chief, New York, New York, as a Consultant (Russian). Effective December 28, 1947, he was promoted to Associate Chief and on March 10, 1949, he became Chief, International Broadcasting Division, (Voice of America) Department of State, New York, New York. As of March, 1949, Thayer listed his residence as 224 West 57th Street, New York, New York.

On March 27, 1950, Thayer married the daughter of Ambassador James C. Dunn in Switzerland.

At the present time Thayer is Consul General of the United States at Munich, Germany.

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II. INVESTIGATIONS BY FBI

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III. ALLEGATION OF POSSIBLE ASSOCIATION WITH ORGANIZATION
DECLARED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL TO BE WITHIN PURVIEW OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 9835

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II. INVESTIGATIONS BY FBI

A. Loyalty of Government Employees

An investigation relative to Charles Wheeler Thayer was instituted on April 29, 1949, on the basis of information received from another government agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations indicating that while Thayer was stationed in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, with the Office of Strategic Services he was very friendly with the Russians, exhibited pro-Titoism and a dislike for General Drasa Mihailovich. Reports reflecting the results of this investigation were transmitted to the United States Civil Service Commission and the United States Department of Justice on June 21, 1949. By letter dated February 14, 1950, the Loyalty Review Board of the Civil Service Commission advised that Thayer had been declared "eligible on loyalty."

B. Security Matter - C

A security type investigation concerning Thayer was instituted on February 18, 1949, and was completed by a report dated April 18, 1949. Copies of investigative reports in this matter were furnished to Assistant Attorney General James M. McInerney, Criminal Division, United States Department of Justice, by memorandum dated April 4, 1950.

Pertinent information developed during the course of the above investigations is set forth herein under the appropriate captions.

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III. ALLEGATION OF POSSIBLE ASSOCIATION WITH ORGANIZATION
DECLARED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL TO BE WITHIN PURVIEW OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 9835

American Russian Institute

A confidential informant of known reliability advised that in February, 1947, Fred Myers of the American Russian Institute in New York, New York, stated he would attempt to contact "Mr. Thayer" of the Department of State and invite him to be guest of the American Russian Institute at the meeting to be held on February 26, 1947, replacing a Mr. Hulton, also of the Department of State, who had been unable to address that particular meeting. The informant did not know whether the Mr. Thayer referred to was invited to or did attend the meeting.

The American Russian Institute for Cultural Relations with the Soviet Union, Inc., New York City, also known as the American Russian Institute, has been declared by the Attorney General to be within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

IV. ALLEGED PRO-COMMUNIST AND/OR PRO-SOVIET
OR SATELLITE ASSOCIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

IV. ALLEGED PRO-COMMUNIST AND/OR PRO-SOVIET
OR SATELLITE ASSOCIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

On May 23, 1949, Eric L. Pridonoff, 1735 Euclid Avenue, San Marino, California furnished a signed statement which reads in part as follows:

"....In 1945, March to be exact, I arrived in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, to work for the American Embassy as an Economic Analyst. As I climbed out of the airplane Lieutenant Colonel Charles Thayer came out to me and to my companions and after some preliminary questioning, told us with an authoritative voice that it would be up to us to establish a friendly relationship between the Yugoslav Government and that of the United States. He also indicated that if there were any questions or instructions that we wanted he would be the man who would supply them. Actually, Colonel Thayer, had no business to contact us nor to interrogate us as he was at that time Chief of the OSS (Military Mission to Yugoslavia) and we of the State Department, members of the Embassy, were replacing that Military Mission.

"To my best knowledge, Colonel Thayer stayed in Yugoslavia from two to three months after the Embassy's arrival. About a week after I began my work in the Embassy, an American citizen, who lived in Yugoslavia all during the occupation, told me that when he went over to the OSS Mission, which was headed by Colonel Thayer, in the month of November, 1944, and asked for some economic help, Colonel Thayer's staff questioned him concerning his political beliefs. This American was very critical of the Communists as well as the Nazis; criticized, extensively, Marshal Tito and the partisan movement and the intervention of the Soviet Government in Yugoslavia. This American citizen was given a quick brush-off by the OSS Mission and he received no economic help. After this incident I did some investigating and found more than six cases where similar situations occurred. In short, members of the Military Mission, whose duty was to help the stranded Americans, refused to help them in every case where the stranded Americans were critical of the Communist regime in Yugoslavia. All this was done with Colonel Thayer's knowledge and approval.

"About three weeks after my arrival in Yugoslavia I questioned Colonel Thayer about his Mission's refusal to help the needy Americans and he dismissed the whole thing with a statement, 'Oh, they were nothing but Nazi collaborators.' That, of course, was a complete lie because most of those people I learned to know well, personally, and had plenty of time in my subsequent residence in Yugoslavia to investigate their behavior during the German occupation.

"About the same time, I was checking an economic report written by Alex Vuchenich, Lieutenant, United States Army, Lieutenant Miner, United States Navy, and I believe, Mitchell Petrovich. All three were members of the OSS Mission headed by Colonel Thayer. The report I examined was a statement of damage done to an American power plant located in the city of Novi Sad. This report indicated that the damage was 100 per cent destruction. About a week later, Mr. Albert Evans, who was a Senior Economic Officer of the Embassy, and I made the trip to Novi Sad and after complete study and investigation, we came to a conclusion that the plant was only 50 per cent destroyed, or perhaps 60. The report was written and it should be on record with the State Department. This should clearly indicate that the Mission had the desire to donate property to the Yugoslav Government because it was the American bombers that destroyed that plant. Actually, the American owners in the United States could still claim half the property because subsequently the Yugoslav Government took over all American properties in Yugoslavia, and, as I understand, later paid for confiscated properties.

"I brought this falsified report to the attention of Colonel Thayer and I asked him why was it that his men were diminishing the Communist control over the economy of Yugoslavia and exaggerated damages done to American properties? Colonel Thayer refused to discuss the situation by stating that he had full confidence in his men. It became apparent, after a while, that OSS Mission under Colonel Thayer's control, was doing everything possible to help the Communist cause and interfere with all those who attempted either to protect American interests, or who were anti-Communists.

"After several encounters with Colonel Thayer I began to keep an eye on him and found that at all social functions he was extremely fond of being with the Soviet officials and it also

became apparent that he made many social calls upon Yugoslav top Commissars and ranking Soviet military officials. I say social calls because the function of the Military Mission ceased and it was handled by the State Department; yet, Colonel Thayer kept on meeting with the ranking Communist officials.

"I was present at gatherings where political economic discussions took place, at which Colonel Thayer also expressed himself as a good Party-liner. His usual comments were, 'Let's not be so hard on Tito. After all look at the difficulty he has had with the Nazis and perhaps he is justified in being a little bit tough on his people.' Or such a remark as, 'So what if he did confiscate the American properties. After all, the Americans were using the poor, unfortunate people of Yugoslavia for their selfish interests.' Or he would say, 'Don't be a tool of Wall Street.' In my some dozen talks with Colonel Thayer, not on a single occasion did he ever criticize the methods used by the Communists, be they of Russian or Yugoslavian origin.

"A month after our arrival in Yugoslavia, the Yugoslav Government was attempting to re-establish a new rate for the American dollar. This negotiation should have been handled by the Embassy; however, Charlie Thayer jumped the gun without any authorization from our Ambassador, went over to the Yugoslav Foreign Office and agreed on a very unrealistic rate. True, this agreement was not made in writing; however, the Yugoslav Government never made any changes. As a result, the American dollar was pegged at 50 dinnars, where it should have actually been set somewhere around 300, with a sliding scale. Ever since that time the United States Government has been forced to pay a higher living allowance to their employees in order to make up the high living due to low exchange rate which was set by the Yugoslav Government on the basis of original discussions with Charles Thayer. Through this arrangement, which he set up without authority, it has cost the United States Government no less than \$1,000,000 and I am prepared to write an economic analysis and prove how I arrived at this \$1,000,000 figure.

"About a month or so later, Colonel Thayer was transferred to Vienna as the Chief of the OSS Mission in Austria.

"In the late part of 1945 or the beginning of 1946, the Counselor of our Embassy, Mr. Schantz, asked me to go over and talk with the Yugoslav head of Foreign Commerce, Mr. Bichnich, concerning a Yugoslav request for an American loan. My talk with

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Mr. Bichinich was very short. I explained to him that my authority was limited; however, I felt that confiscation of the American property, establishment of unrealistic exchange rate, abuse of the American personnel, failure to follow Yugoslav obligations as indicated in the Yalta Agreement and transshipment of U.N.R.A. goods into the Soviet Union was not a good collateral for a loan, and our conversation ended and there was no loan given the Yugoslav Government. I later learned that our Ambassador backed me up.

"Shortly after my conversation with Mr. Bichinich, we at the Embassy learned that Colonel Thayer was coming for an unofficial visit from Vienna. We were all surprised because as a rule even Americans on official business had difficulty entering Yugoslavia. When Colonel Thayer arrived, an excellent source informed me that he first went into the Yugoslav Foreign Office where he had a one-hour discussion with Deputy Foreign Minister for Yugoslavia. Later on he had a visit with Marshal Tito; then came to the American Embassy; then he saw some Soviet top officials and I believe that day or the next day, at a party, Colonel Thayer came up to me and said, 'What's the idea, Fridonoff, interfering with a loan to Yugoslavia?' I asked him how was it that he knew about it and he said, 'Never mind that. Why don't you help these poor people? They need American dollars.' Colonel Thayer's voice was very friendly with the exception that he was very insistent on U. S. giving Yugoslavia a loan. I told him the whole story of my conversation with Mr. Bichinich and that I still felt that Yugoslav behavior didn't warrant a loan from the United States. There, Thayer again attempted to justify the behavior of Tito's Communistic regime and slightly threatened me; however, when I accused him of the threat, he quickly said that I misunderstood him. The best recollection I have now is that our conversation lasted about a half hour and during that time the whole thesis was that we should give the Yugoslavian Government a loan, notwithstanding the fact that the Yugoslavian Government failed in all of its obligations to the United States.

"I am also aware, beyond any doubt, Colonel Thayer, after our conversation, again paid a visit to the Yugoslav Foreign Office, where he repeated our conversation.

"It should be noted that Charles Thayer, when head of the OSS Mission in Yugoslavia, was friendly with, and allowed Stojan Pribichevich, a well-known Party-liner, a run of the Mission and, in fact, Pribichevich gave him orders as to which Americans should be given aid. Thayer would follow Pribichevich's advice.

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"While I was in Yugoslavia, it also became apparent to me that on many occasions Thayer gave American gasoline, food, supplies, ammunition, tires and other equipment to the officials of the Yugoslavian Government and the Soviet Military Mission, without pay. All those presents were uncalled for. Actually, Colonel Thayer had no authorization from anyone to give those goods to the Yugoslavian Government. I am not speaking of the goods that were authorized as a part of Lend Lease. These were personal favors to the ranking officials of the Yugoslav Government and the Soviet Military Mission. My personal feeling is that Colonel Thayer was always ready and willing to serve the Communist officials, and his whole behavior was in the interests of their success. I, just as strongly, feel that his behavior in Yugoslavia was very detrimental to the American cause, and in addition the fact that he collaborated with Communist high-ranking officials has convinced me that he is not a good security risk.

"Charles Thayer, in my opinion, is not a good security risk because of his collaboration with top Communist officials in Yugoslavia and with Soviet officials, as has been related above...."

An informant of unknown reliability advised another government agency in July, 1948, that he had known Thayer for some time and that Thayer once lived and roomed with Mike (Michael Boro) Petrovich.

A former official for the U. S. Government at Belgrade, Yugoslavia, who was described by another Government agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations, as having furnished reliable information to that agency, furnished the following to that agency during 1948:

This individual stated that when the Military Mission was set up in Belgrade, Thayer had as his Political Analysis Writers two Americans of Yugoslav descent named Alexander Vucinich and Michael Boro Petrovich, both of whom were described by this individual as Communists. According to this former official, these two individuals, while at Bari, Italy, during World War II, showed clearly and unmistakably to everyone that they were Communists. This informant related that a third member of Mr. Thayer's Political Analysis Section was Robert Graham Minor, who, according to this informant, was probably not a Communist but did associate with the Communists and

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especially with Vucinich and Petrovich. This informant reported that Thayer was very friendly with the Russians, and although United States policy at that time favored Tito, Thayer showed a very strong like toward the Tito forces and a dislike for General Draza Mihailovich. He stated that Thayer once "flew in" fifty jeeps and gave them to Tito and that a good many "good Americans" in Belgrade questioned Thayer's loyalty to the U. S. cause.

In June, 1949, this former official for the U. S. Government at Belgrade, Yugoslavia, was interviewed by another Government agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations at which time he refused categorically to make a statement regarding Thayer. He declared that the little he knows concerning Thayer is already well known in Washington. He said he believed he could add nothing pertinent.

The files of the government agency mentioned above reflect that Alexander Vucinich and his brother, Wayne Vucinich, both of whom served together in the Office of Strategic Services at Bari, Italy, and Belgrade, Yugoslavia, during World War II, have been described by individuals who knew them during their OSS service as being pro-Tito, pro-Russian, and pro-Communist and associates of the Tito Partisans, pro-Russians and Communists. Reliable informants who were acquainted with the above Vucinich brothers prior to the war reported that they followed the Communist Party line.

The files of the government agency mentioned above also reflect that Michael Boro Petrovich had served with the Office of Strategic Services at Bari, Italy, and Belgrade, Yugoslavia. These files reflect that information was furnished by fellow OSS employees of Petrovich that he was pro-Tito and associated with Tito Partisans. These individuals also have reported that he voiced a sympathy for Tito, the Russians and Communists and that he chose the Communist element with whom to associate.

The files of another government agency conducting personnel and intelligence investigations contain the following information concerning Alexander S. Vucinich:

An informant of unknown reliability advised that Alexander S. Vucinich worked for his brother, Wayne Vucinich, who was editor of the "Yugoslav American Herald." Informant stated that the Vucinich brothers were publishing articles in this paper which corresponded with the articles of the same date appearing in the "Daily Worker" and "The People's World." He related that

both of the Vucinich brothers were at all times, while stationed in the Balkans with OSS, clearly allied with that group known to be strictly pro-Communist and pro-Tito.

The "Daily Worker" is an east coast Communist newspaper. The "People's Daily World" is a west coast Communist newspaper.

Another informant of unknown reliability advised that around 1939 Alexander Vucinich began to work with his brother, Wayne Vucinich, as a staff writer for the Yugoslav American Herald. According to this informant, the editorials and articles began to take on a "left wing slant" and actually began to follow the Communist Party line when the Vucinich brothers were employed.

An informant of unknown reliability who knew Alexander Vucinich and Wayne Vucinich while they were stationed at Bari, Italy, advised that both of them associated with the Communist group at Bari. He added that they were always extolling the virtues of Tito and condemning Mihailovich.

"The New Leader" dated May 24, 1947, Volume XXXX, No. 21, page 8 contains an article entitled "How to Falsify Military Intelligence" by David Martin, former captain in the Canadian Air Force, author of "Ally Betrayed." This article states that the information concerning Yugoslavia during the last war was falsified in an effort to convince the Allies that the people of Yugoslavia were, for the most part, Partisans fighting for Tito, while the Chetniks under General Mihailovich were in the minority and, furthermore, were the enemies of the Allies. This article continued that as a result of this falsified information furnished to the Allies through the efforts of disloyal OSS personnel, Great Britain and the United States made the greatest blunder in history when they threw their lot in with the Communist Tito regime. The article continued:

"Although General Donovan personally was never taken in by the myth of Tito and frequently bucked British policy in Yugoslavia, the OSS was far from immune to pro-Soviet infiltration. Among the 'friends of the Soviet Union' in the OSS were the brothers Vane (Wayne) and Alexander Vouchenich (Vucinich), both of whom had responsible desk positions in the Yugoslav Section..."

In September, 1949, a reliable informant advised that he has known Michael Baro Petrovich since the latter part of 1944 when he met him in Bari, Italy. He advised that he believed Petrovich to be a Communist on the basis of his associating only with a Communist group which included Alex and Wayne Vuchinich.

He said that Petrovich continually spoke of Yugoslavia becoming a "democracy" under Tito whereas it has previously been a dictatorship.

[3505 Magnolia Street]

In October, 1949, Joseph Veselinovich, [.....]
[.....] St. Louis, Missouri, advised that he had been attached to the Office of Strategic Services as a Special Intelligence and Special Operation Officer. He related that while in Italy Petrovich on many occasions stated to him that he, Petrovich, sincerely believed that Communism was the best and only type of government for the Balkan States. Veselinovich advised that in his conversations Petrovich appeared to be highly enthusiastic about the cause and spread of Communism. He added that from his conversations, he was convinced that Petrovich was a Communist.

In 1949 Charles W. Thayer was interviewed concerning Michael Boro Petrovich during the course of an applicant investigation conducted under the provisions of Public Law 402 by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Thayer advised that he knew Petrovich when both were employed by the Office of Strategic Services and while Petrovich was a member of the United States Mission in Yugoslavia which was headed by Thayer. Thayer stated that when Petrovich arrived in Yugoslavia with OSS he was one of the few Americans who were able to judge the situation from a purely American point of view. He said that in Petrovich's contacts with Americans Petrovich loyally defended the President's decision to support Tito although he was never under any illusion as to the non-democratic and Communist character of the Tito Government. He said that Petrovich was also aware of the strong-arm methods used by the Tito Government against the Serbian Orthodox Church Hierarchy with which Petrovich had long family connections. Thayer said that Petrovich was more opposed to Tito than to Mihailovich but that he had heard that Petrovich had made speeches in New York in support of Tito.

On May 23, 1949, Mark Komnenich, a United States citizen of Yugoslav descent who had spent many years in Yugoslavia until after termination of World War II, furnished a signed statement, portions of which read as follows:

"...In early 1945 I went to the O.S.S. Mission in Belgrade, Yugoslavia for a job as I am an American citizen; also I wanted protection until I could get out of the country. The

Mission was under the leadership of Charles W. Thayer. I talked with Michel Petrovich and Lt. Miner who worked under Thayer. They quizzed me as to my political affiliation, and when I told them I was against the Communists, they told me they could not help me.

"After I started working for U.S. Embassy in Belgrade, I saw a cablegram sent to O.S.S. Mission telling them to help me, and to assist me to get out of the country. Actually they refused to do anything for me in spite of these instructions. I never had but a few brief conversations with Thayer, which consisted primarily of salutations...."

Eugene V. Prostov, attached to the Korean Desk, International Broadcasting Division, State Department, New York City, advised in 1949 that he was formerly a member of the American Delegation to the U.S. - U.S.S.R. Joint Commission in Korea. Prostov related that he met Thayer in February or March, 1946, at which time the first session of the Commission began, and worked constantly with him from that time until the dissolution of the first session in May, 1946. He said that, although Thayer has a "terrific" liking for the Russian people as a race, his friendship does not interfere with his astuteness as a negotiator nor does it in any way affect his dislike of Communism or the Soviet form of government. Prostov said that Thayer would attempt to handle any situation even beyond the call of duty to combat Communist activities that would in any way be contrary to the best interests of the United States. Mr. Prostov said that he has ascertained from Thayer that Thayer thought highly of the astuteness and personality of Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia and that Thayer had told him of the many good times he has had with Tito. Prostov added that according to Thayer, Thayer's duty while on his military mission was to get as friendly with Tito as possible, in order to be able to extract as much information as possible from Tito concerning his beliefs and policies. Prostov advised that Thayer told him that he had to operate with an overt friendliness in order to obtain the information that would make his mission a success. Prostov said that undoubtedly many Yugoslavian people who disliked Tito would not be able to understand Thayer's apparent friendship with Tito and would classify him as pro-Tito when in fact he definitely was not.

In May, 1949, Dr. Robert H. MacDowell, Consultant, Intelligence Division of the Army, Pentagon Building, Washington, D. C., informed that he had served as an Observer on temporary duty in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations with OSS from

August, 1942, to December, 1944. Mr. MacDowell explained that it was his job to check on all the work of the OSS. During this period, although he did not have personal contact with Thayer, who was doing OSS work, he read many reports written by Thayer on his observations of conditions in Yugoslavia. It was Dr. MacDowell's opinion from reading these reports that Thayer was extremely pro-Tito. At the time Thayer worked in Belgrade, continued Dr. MacDowell, Thayer apparently had very close contact with the Tito forces and spent practically all of his time reporting information furnished by them. Dr. MacDowell related that it was the policy of the Allied forces to "play ball" with the Tito forces and to recognize them in contrast to the forces of Mihailovich. According to Dr. MacDowell, it was quite possible that Thayer had this policy in mind when he continually reported pro-Tito information. It was not known by MacDowell whether this trend of Thayer's reports meant that he was pro-Communist. In any event, MacDowell remarked that it appeared to him that Thayer lacked good judgment and discretion in reporting everything favorable to Tito. He stated that Thayer was useless from an intelligence viewpoint because of his apparent gullibility in believing and reporting everything favorable to Tito. MacDowell commented that he does not believe Thayer is a Communist, or that he is pro-Russian or even that he is disloyal but volunteered that he does not believe he is a fit person in his position because of his demonstration of a lack of discretion in his OSS work.

Albert E. Evans, Oakhill Terrace, Ossining, New York, business address, Pyne, Kendall, and Hollister, 522 Fifth Avenue, New York City, stated in the Spring of 1949 that he was formerly Senior Economic Officer in the American Embassy in Belgrade from approximately February, 1945, to August, 1946. He advised that when he arrived in Belgrade, Thayer was there as head of the Office of Strategic Services. He related that he arrived at the opinion, without being able to state exactly his reasons for his feeling, that Thayer was not the type of individual to be representing the United States in Belgrade. He advised he felt there was too much apparent appeasing of Tito and his policies by the American authorities. He said that Thayer in particular, as head of the Office of Strategic Services in Belgrade and as an individual who apparently controlled the thinking of the Ambassador and the policy of American authorities in Belgrade, publicly at various receptions held in Belgrade showered too much of his attention and apparent admiration on Tito, which, to Evans' mind, probably gave the wrong impression to other nations concerning the position of the United States in regard to Russia. Mr. Evans

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related that his observations of Thayer's actions in regard to Tito, plus Thayer's actions which caused him to believe that power and promotion were Thayer's first consideration, made him feel that Thayer was not the right type of individual to be representing the United States in Belgrade. Mr. Evans said that actually he was not able to show factually the reason for his feeling of lack of faith in Thayer other than his observations based on Thayer's actions. He added that his opinion was such that in the final analysis he believed if it became a choice between Thayer's desire for power and prestige, plus his apparent admiration of Tito, as evidenced by his actions, and the welfare of America in contrast to the welfare of Russia, Thayer would first choose the welfare of America. In conclusion Mr. Evans stated that Tito finally ordered the Office of Strategic Services out of Belgrade inasmuch as he had become suspicious of their motives in their overt friendliness toward him and, as a consequence, Thayer had to leave Belgrade.

In June, 1949, Robert G. Miner, Second Secretary, American Embassy, Athens, Greece, advised that he had served with Mr. Thayer, who was then a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army with the American Military Mission to Yugoslavia for approximately six months in 1944 and 1945, during which time he was in very close contact with Thayer both during and outside working hours. He said that he never had the slightest occasion to doubt Thayer's loyalty to the United States in any way. Mr. Miner advised that Thayer appeared to him to be strongly anti-Communist. Mr. Miner related that there were only two circumstances during this period which might serve as the basis for any accusation of disloyalty and in Mr. Miner's opinion neither of them should be considered in any way as indicating disloyalty to the United States. In elaborating on this Mr. Miner said that there were some Americans of Serb descent who considered that another unnamed American officer of Serb descent on Thayer's staff was a Communist. This officer, according to Mr. Miner, was a trained sociologist, had a thorough mastery of Serb and English and had valuable contacts among leading officials of the Tito group, many of whom had been fellow students of his at the University of Belgrade prior to the war. Mr. Miner pointed out that this individual despised the pre-war regime in Yugoslavia, was not pro-Mihailovich and, in fact, had been pro-Tito until he had come into first-hand contact with the movement and saw exactly what it meant. According to Mr. Miner, during the period that he served with Thayer and this officer was on the staff, almost all of the latter's reports were, so far as he was aware, concerned with economic and social matters and were not pro-Communist but objective. Mr. Miner stated that

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Thayer never discussed with him whether or not this officer should continue on the staff and, consequently, he did not know whether Thayer retained the officer at his own wish or because of the difficulty in securing an equally well qualified replacement. Mr. Miner advised that the other factor that may have caused some people to question Thayer's loyalty was his attitude toward the Serb spirit of resistance. According to Mr. Miner, Thayer frequently and acidly spoke of "the myth of Serb resistance." These remarks, said Mr. Miner, were Thayer's response to predictions of various Serb-Americans and other pro-Mihailovich elements that the Serbs would never submit to Tito's rule but would again "go to the woods" and by force of arms overthrow the Tito regime. Mr. Miner declared that Thayer did not believe that any such development would occur and was frank in stating so to various people who held the opposite viewpoint most strongly. Mr. Miner concluded that it seemed inconceivable that a man's loyalty to the United States should be questioned because he carried out what was then the official United States policy of according military support to Tito and held a different interpretation of possible future developments in Yugoslavia from that maintained by other Americans.

[3249 N Street, NW.]

In May, 1949, Constantine A. Fotitch,
.....] Washington, D. C., former Royal Yugoslav Ambassador to the United States, advised he had met Charles Thayer once in the early part of 1947. At this meeting Thayer exhibited very strong sympathy for the Tito regime in Yugoslavia and told Mr. Fotitch that when he was with the Office of Strategic Services in Yugoslavia, he had discharged employees under his supervision who were pro-Mihailovich. Fotitch pointed out that he, himself, was pro-Mihailovich and naturally had an aversion to Thayer's attitude on the Yugoslav question. He said that at this meeting he did not pursue this question any further in order to avoid argument. He stated he does not believe Thayer is or ever was disloyal to the United States but believes Thayer was of the opinion that by cultivating Tito, the United States would gain an important ally.

A reliable informant advised in May, 1949, that he first became well acquainted with Thayer after the fall of Belgrade in 1944, while Thayer and he were employees of the U.S. Government in Belgrade. Informant stated that Thayer was the Chief of OSS and was in Belgrade during the same months in 1944 and 1945 as the informant. He related that Thayer could

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speaking Yugoslav and Russian very well, was a very able diplomat, but had a flare for the dramatic, and had a tremendous desire for power. Informant advised that Thayer was guilty of reporting to Washington officials false information regarding Tito. He explained that Thayer played up Tito and suppressed the facts regarding Tito's desire of forming a Balkan Confederacy, which would some day become another Soviet state. He said that Thayer was instrumental in having photographers of the Army Air Force photograph Tito on many occasions, playing up to the vanity of Tito. Informant stated that the policy had been decided to favor Tito in Yugoslavia and that Thayer would report information supporting that policy. He reported that it was well known in the Office of Strategic Services and in the other American offices that Thayer had several Communists on his staff. He said he could not recall the names of these individuals. Informant continued that Thayer explained the presence of Communists on his staff by relating that it was necessary to have Communists in his dealings with Tito and that the Communists were good sources of information regarding the Tito regime. He said that he had frequent arguments with Thayer over Thayer's policy of stressing the good sides of Tito and of suppressing the bad sides of Tito. The informant stated that in his opinion Thayer is very able, but he doubts Thayer's wisdom in making policies for the United States. He added that Thayer is loyal to this country and would not knowingly betray any secrets or confidences to any foreign power.

An informant of unknown reliability who served in OSS during the war advised in March, 1949, that on one occasion Thayer sent a message to the State or War Department in the United States requesting he be allowed to give a decoration to Tito; however, the State and War Departments responded that no such decoration should be given Tito.

Advice was received from the Department of State in April, 1950, that such a request or response as mentioned above could not be identified in the records of that Department.

The Department of the Army advised in April, 1950, that a search of the records of that Department had failed to disclose correspondence indicating Thayer had desired to give a decoration to Tito, or that the Department had responded to such a request.

An informant of unknown reliability advised in March, 1949, that he had generally regarded Thayer as being pro-Tito; however, on one occasion he had heard Thayer disparagingly refer to one of Tito's Generals.

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William Donovan, Attorney, 2 Wall Street, New York, New York, former Director, Office of Strategic Services, advised in the Spring of 1949 that Thayer's most specific duty in his mission to Tito's headquarters was to get as friendly as possible with Tito in order to win his confidence so that he might extract all essential military and intelligence information concerning Tito's future plans and policies.

A confidential informant of known reliability advised in 1949 that Charles Wheeler Thayer was employed in Bari, Italy, in 1944, by the Office of Strategic Services and that the group of OSS personnel in Bari were divided into two factions, those who were pro-Tito and those who were against Tito. Those who were pro-Tito were known and strongly suspected Communists who displayed definite Communist leanings. In this pro-Tito group was Charles W. Thayer, Michael Boro Petrovich, Alexander and Wayne Vucinich (brothers), Major F. A. Arnoldy and George S. Wuchinich.

George S. Wuchinich, who was in the Army during the war and was assigned to OSS during that time, was reported by a reliable informant as having stated in June, 1947, that he joined the Communist Party while serving with OSS in Yugoslavia. This informant said that Wuchinich advised that he was not then a member of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania, but was contemplating joining. Other reliable informants have advised, during 1947 and 1948, that he attended meetings of the Communist Party in Pittsburgh and was closely associated with Communist Party functionaries in Pittsburgh. According to "Narodni Glasnik" issue of August 21, 1947, George S. Wuchinich was Executive Secretary of the American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania.

The Communist Party, USA, and the American Slav Congress have been declared as being within the purview of Executive Order 9835 by the Attorney General. Concerning "Narodni Glasnik," in a report of 1948, the California Committee on Un-American Activities declared this publication "to be Communist initiated and controlled, or so strongly influenced as to be in the Stalin Solar System."

Dr. Wayne S. Vucinich was employed by OSS in Washington, D. C., London, England, and Bari, Italy, from 1941 to 1944. From 1944 to 1945, he was employed by the Allied Control Commission, Sofia, Bulgaria. From June, 1945 to September, 1946, he was employed by the Department of State in Washington, D. C. An

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informant of unknown reliability advised another government agency in 1946, that in 1937 or 1938, Vucinich was a contributor to the Yugoslav-American Herald in San Francisco and was editor of this paper from 1939 to 1941. This informant expressed the opinion that during this period Vucinich's views were strongly Communistic. Another informant of unknown reliability who knew Wayne Vucinich while both were stationed at Bari, Italy, advised another government agency in 1946, that Vucinich always associated with Communists and pro-Communist partisans and worked very closely with them. Another informant of unknown reliability who has known Wayne Vucinich since before the war advised another government agency in 1946 that Vucinich was definitely and openly pro-Tito and pro-partisan while he was stationed at Bari, Italy, and associated with known and suspected Communists.

In July, 1949, an informant of unknown reliability advised that he had been invited to visit the Voice of America radio station in New York for consultation. He stated that he understood that the Voice of America desired to consult with him as to how American propaganda broadcasts to the Soviet Union could be made more effective. He said that when he and his wife visited the Voice of America, they became friendly with Charles Thayer who was then the head of the Voice of America. He declared that both his wife and he made a number of suggestions which they intended would have the effect of making the broadcasts more effective to the Soviet people. The informant said that he and his wife later visited Thayer's apartment and listened to the broadcasts concerning which they had made suggestions. They found that the suggestions which they had made had been perverted and colored with Communist Party line propaganda. For example, they had suggested that the Voice of America might depict for the Soviet people the life of an average American worker. When they audited the broadcast, they found that the life of an American workers as actually broadcast was more anti than pro-American. They protested to Thayer about this, pointing out to him that the broadcast sounded pro-Soviet. The informant said that Thayer became quite upset, although he denied that the broadcasts would be construed as pro-Soviet. The informant related that although Thayer denied being pro-Soviet, he considered that Thayer actually was pro-Soviet. He explained that the only other possibility would be that Thayer's assistants are pro-Soviet and deluding Thayer. The informant added that in his opinion Thayer is shrewd enough so that no one would be "pulling the wool over his eyes."

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The informant advised that soon after his visit to the Voice of America Station in New York, he was approached by a woman from the "Daily Worker." Her purpose in visiting him was to ascertain why he had visited the Voice of America Station. He refused to answer any questions and asked the woman to leave. She subsequently visited the informant's residence a second time and in his absence spoke to his wife and attempted to question her as to their visit to the Voice of America Station, but his wife refused to answer any questions. After the visits by this woman, two men contacted his wife in his absence and represented themselves as correspondents of the Federated Press and desired an interview. They began to question her as to why she and the informant visited the Voice of America. After the visit of these two men the informant complained to the Voice of America Office in New York and related the above incidents to Thayer, who, according to the informant, became embarrassed and excited. The informant explained that he cannot prove that the men were sent to his residence by someone at the Voice of America, but he pointed out that after his complaint to the Voice of America, these men never returned.

Alfred Puhan, Special Assistant to the Chief, Program Operations Branch, International Broadcasting Division, Department of State, New York City, in the Spring of 1949, advised that Thayer, after becoming the consultant on the Russian Desk, agreed with him that the Desk in preparing broadcasts to Russia should adopt a "tougher" policy toward the Russians than the previous policy of appeasement. Puhan declared Thayer is responsible for the Voice of America getting the favorable publicity it was receiving because of its "get tough" policy.

An individual who has furnished reliable information in the past advised in May, 1949, that he is not personally acquainted with Thayer but knows him by reputation. He said it was the consensus among those familiar with the Yugoslav situation during World War II that Thayer was very pro-Tito and that he did not take the objective view of the Tito-Mihailovich struggle which an unbiased American observer should have taken. This individual stated he was told by a person, whom he did not name, whose reliability he does not question, that Thayer had made the statement that he had destroyed the legend of Mihailovich and the fighting Serbs. He related that he was told by a reliable person, whose name he did not disclose, who was

acquainted with Thayer's activities in Yugoslavia that Thayer had done everything possible to assist Tito's partisans. He added that the circumstances which convinced him that Thayer has catered to Communists were Thayer's efforts to place Vaso Travanovich on the Voice of America payroll. He said that Travanovich was the Press Officer for the Communist Yugoslavia Embassy in the United States and wrote a pamphlet in 1946 critical of General Marshall. The pamphlet stated Marshall ruled a powerful officer's group in the Pentagon which had tried to stop the spread of Communism in the Balkans by supporting General Mihailovich. This informant stated that he has never heard any allegations of disloyalty against Thayer and personally does not believe he was ever disloyal. However, he does believe that his youth and naive nature caused him to be hoodwinked into extending more support to Yugoslav Communists than was warranted by his position as head of an American Military Mission. The informant added that while Thayer supported Travanovich's efforts to obtain Voice of America employment, he has since gained the reputation of hiring only those who are very anti-Communist.

An informant of unknown reliability, who was a former supervisor of Thayer in the State Department, advised in June, 1949, that he has no question in his mind concerning the loyalty of Thayer but from the impressions Thayer has made on him he has formed the impression that Thayer is immature and irresponsible and that he is motivated in his actions by a tremendous desire for personal gain and prestige. This individual related that on one occasion Thayer had been told not to employ an individual named Vaso Trivanovich because the Security Office of the State Department had requested that he not be employed. He said that he did not know the reason why Trivanovich should not be employed, nor did Thayer. He related that he, himself, knew of no objection to Trivanovich. According to this informant, in spite of his instructions to the contrary, Thayer employed Trivanovich on a free lance basis. This individual said that he felt that this specific action on the part of Thayer showed his lack of maturity and his desire to get ahead. He said that he feels that Thayer decided that for the best interests of the program, the material supplied by Trivanovich would accomplish greater benefit for the program and consequently employed Trivanovich. He said that he believes that Thayer had no intention of injuring the security of the country by this action. This informant continued that even though

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Thayer's desire for personal prestige and gain was one of the prime factors motivating him, he believed that this desire would be subjugated if the issue arose as to choosing between the security of the United States and his own gain. Informant's only fear in this regard was that Thayer might not, because of his lack of maturity, recognize the issue and, consequently, would unintentionally harm the United States. He said that he, himself, would not hire Thayer because of this lack of maturity and irresponsibility on his part.

In 1948 a confidential informant of known reliability advised that he has a friend, unnamed, who is a colonel in the United States Army. This informant advised that this unnamed colonel had conferred with Mr. Charles Thayer, head of the Voice of America, at which time Thayer had asked the colonel what he knew concerning Vaso Trivanovich, advising that Trivanovich was being considered for a position with the Voice of America to broadcast to Yugoslavia. According to the informant, the unnamed colonel generally reported to Mr. Thayer on the background and sympathies of Trivanovich and Mr. Thayer had responded in a manner indicating he was sympathetic to the application of Trivanovich, stating that Trivanovich was no longer sympathetic with the Tito Government.

Vaso Trivanovich has been reliably reported as a pro-Tito Yugoslavian who has maintained contact with the Tito Yugoslav Embassy in Washington, D. C., and has done translation work for that Embassy.

A confidential informant of known reliability has advised that in 1949 an individual considered to be the head of the Yugoslav Intelligence Service in the United States approached the informant and told him that he would be interested in the informant's learning if Charles Thayer of the Voice of America had been offended because Marshal Tito had not given Thayer a reception during the recent visit of Thayer to Yugoslavia. This individual explained to the informant that such a reception could not have been given by Tito for fear of incurring the disapproval of the Cominform and the Russian Government.

A reliable informant advised that Thayer was a contact of Maurice Hindus and Brooks Atkinson but the extent of the contact or nature of same was not known to this informant.

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According to reliable informants, Brooks Atkinson signed an open letter to the Government and the People of the United States on January 31, 1939, under the sponsorship of the Washington Committee to Lift the Spanish Embargo and was a sponsor of the Russian War Relief, Inc., in 1941. Further, that Brooks Atkinson was one of several persons who had been proposed for membership on the National Publicity Advisory Committee of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

According to the "Daily Worker" for October 11, 1941, the Russian War Relief, Incorporated, superseded the original American Committee for Medical Aid to Russia. The "Daily Worker" is an east coast Communist newspaper. The "Daily Worker" of October 4, 1941, stated that Russian War Relief, Incorporated was intended to be the central national organization through which numerous groups and committees would send their medical and civilian aid to the Soviet Union.

A reliable informant advised that a Communist Party official in New York City made the statement that former unpaid members of Communist front organizations had obtained good paying positions in Russian War Relief, Incorporated, and that this was proof of what good training-ground Communist Party front organizations were.

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee appears on the list of organizations named by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. The Washington Committee to Lift Spanish Embargo was cited as a Communist front by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in its report of 1948, pp. 335 and 336.

A reliable informant has advised that Maurice Hindus is a well-known author on Soviet Russia and Moscow correspondent for the "New York Herald Tribune." He is the author of "Mother Russia" and "Russia and Japan." According to reliable informants, Maurice Hindus is an acquaintance of Joseph Freeman, formerly connected with the magazine "New Masses," being one of the founders of that magazine. Freeman has stated to agents of the FBI that he broke away from the Communist Party and "New Masses" in 1937 because he realized that as an author he could not gain any prominence as a Communist writer on "New Masses." Freeman has described Maurice Hindus as a "naive individual who is a lover of Soviet ideals and has no conception of what Communism is actually doing."

The publication "New Masses" has been cited as a Communist front organization by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives.

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V. ALLEGATIONS INVOLVING MORAL TURPITUDE
AND BLACK MARKETING ACTIVITIES

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V. ALLEGATIONS INVOLVING MORAL TURPITUDE
AND BLACK MARKETING ACTIVITIES

→ [STATE DEPT]

An individual who has been reported by another government agency as having furnished reliable information advised on March 30, 1949, that he had been acquainted with Charles Wheeler Thayer for the past few years and that Thayer is undoubtedly a homosexual. Informant declared that Thayer and [redacted] who was at one time employed by the [Porter] State Department and who is a notorious homosexual, are very good friends. Informant stated he met [redacted] and became friends with him before [redacted] was discovered by him to be a homosexual. He advised [redacted] is a very large and masculine man, who had a great record in World War II as a full colonel, [Tru Porter] and that it is almost impossible for anyone to surmise [redacted] [Porter] is a homosexual. This informant stated, however, that one evening [redacted] propositioned him to engage in homosexual acts and informant thereupon dropped [redacted] as a friend. Informant [Porter] stated that during this friendship, one night in December, 1946, informant and [redacted] went to Thayer's apartment at 1762 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Informant stated he and [redacted] did not knock at Thayer's door but opened the door and walked in and informant and [redacted] heard sounds in an adjoining room [Porter] indicating two people were in bed and that these two people immediately got up and came into the room where informant and [Porter] [redacted] were, at which time they were arranging their clothes and informant stated these two individuals were Thayer and an individual whose identity he is not sure of, but that it was obvious to him that Thayer and this other individual were having homosexual relations. (The informant stated that he believed this other individual was [redacted] of the U.S. Army, although he is not sure of this to a degree where he can definitely say it was [redacted]). Informant advised [Porter] that [redacted] later told him that Thayer is "as queer as a \$3 bill," and that although Thayer was married he was a "high class homosexual and is known only among high class homosexuals."

[See SSS Report]

Investigation disclosed that Thayer and his wife moved to 1762 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., in September, 1946, from 120 E. 95th Street, New York City.

This same informant further advised that during the first half of 1948 he accidentally ran into [redacted] who was [Porter] then in New York City from somewhere out West. He had learned

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[VERNON ALVES]

[Porter]

[Max. Rankin] presence in New York City through [redacted] described by informant as a homosexual. According to the informant, [redacted] told informant [redacted] is still in love with you and is going to make a queer out of you yet." Informant stated that through [redacted] they arranged to meet Thayer and had a few drinks and ate and talked for several hours, during which time they told homosexual jokes and talked of many people who are homosexual and which man is in love with another. Informant stated that when they left the restaurant and bar they got in a cab and after dropping [redacted] off, Thayer made approaches to informant to engage in homosexual relations with him. Informant stated that earlier this evening, [redacted] and Thayer [Porter] had spoken of what great friends they were with [redacted] and [SPRIS] how they regretted to learn he had resigned from the Foreign Service. During the conversation, both [redacted] and Thayer [Porter] mentioned [redacted] as a mutual friend of theirs and [redacted] commented to informant that [Robert's] is a very famous homosexual. Also, during the conversation the name of [Mike Petrovich] came up and the informant gained the impression that Thayer at one time lived with [Petrovich]. Thayer commented to [Porter] and informant that [Petrovich] is "gay", which informant stated is a homosexual term meaning an active or participating homosexual. Informant stated that Thayer's apparent association with [redacted] plus his known association with [redacted] and his homosexual conversation and the very definite approach Thayer made to informant, convinces informant that Thayer is a homosexual.

With regard to [redacted] informant stated that on one occasion he had been in the company of [redacted] at a party given at [Porter's] house and that on another occasion when leaving [Porter's] home, [redacted] propositioned him saying to informant that he, [redacted] would like to go to bed with him.

A confidential informant of known reliability advised that [redacted] and Charles Thayer lived together at Bari, Italy, and he had heard from many sources, which were not named, that Thayer was a homosexual.

An informant of unknown reliability advised in October, 1949, that he had learned from reliable sources in the Royal Yugoslav Army that [redacted] was a homosexual.

An informant of unknown reliability advised in March, 1949, that [redacted] a close friend of Thayer for many years, admitted in July, 1947, that he [redacted] was a homosexual. According to the informant, [redacted] also said that among Thayer's friends and those with whom he associated frequently were [redacted] and that [redacted] knew that [redacted] were homosexuals but that he had no such knowledge concerning Thayer.

Information has been received from another government agency that in 1947 a complaint was registered that [redacted] was a homosexual; that investigation substantiated the allegation and on February 16, 1948, [redacted] resigned his Reserve Commission.

[Porter's] An informant of unknown reliability advised in 1948, according to another government agency, that when [redacted] was [redacted] in the [redacted] Administration, [redacted] and Thayer were very close friends. The informant stated that every time Thayer came to Washington he either stayed at [redacted] home or visited with him. The informant advised that [redacted] had been asked to resign from the State Department because he was found to be a notorious homosexual and who during his tenure of office with the [redacted] had brought in several other homosexuals into that division who subsequently had to be weeded out. Informant stated that [redacted] Porter often came in on Monday morning looking bleary-eyed and reported that he had had a "terrific weekend" and that "Charlie Thayer was by to see me and we had a wild time." The informant stated that [redacted] spoke of Thayer often and because of what he knew of [redacted] he was suspicious of their associations. He stated it was hard for him to believe that Thayer was a homosexual but when he learned that [redacted] was he felt almost sure that Thayer likewise was a homosexual. However, the informant stated he had no facts upon which to base this belief other than Thayer's close personal association with [redacted] [Porter]

An informant of unknown reliability advised a representative of another government agency that [redacted] is known to him as a homosexual, according to information received in March, 1949.

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[Carmel
Office]

An informant of unknown reliability advised in March, 1949, that [redacted] had been a Foreign Service Officer with the State Department. However, he was proven to be a homosexual and forced to resign from the State Department.

Information was received in April, 1950, that records of the Department of State fail to indicate that [redacted] was forced to resign, but on the contrary reflect that he resigned voluntarily on August 24, 1948. [Office]

[Office]

The records of the Identification Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under FBI [redacted] reflect that [redacted] was arrested by the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., September 8, 1943, for "Investigation - Disorderly Conduct and Pervert."

In connection with this arrest, an informant of unknown reliability advised in March, 1950, that he had received information that [redacted] was sent to Lafayette Park on the occasion to watch the activities of a State Department employee who had been accused of being homosexual. The informant advised that according to information received by him, [redacted] was acting on instructions of his employer.

A former official for the U. S. Government at Belgrade, Yugoslavia, who was described by another government agency, which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations, as having furnished reliable information to that agency, furnished the following information to that agency in 1948: [STATE]

This individual stated that while he was at Belgrade, Yugoslavia, he heard rumors to the effect that Thayer was a homosexual. He stated that a close friend of his who worked on Thayer's staff in Belgrade for the Military Mission confided that he had suspected Thayer of being homosexual, had heard stories that he was a homosexual and had made a point of trying to find out whether such information was true. The friend later told this individual that he found that Thayer was homosexual. This individual reported that this information regarding Thayer was widely known in Belgrade, although the informant had no actual facts to prove the matter. He stated that Thayer was waited on regularly by a native Yugoslav waiter named [redacted] who was a known homosexual in Belgrade. This individual related

that he heard the same stories regarding the moral conduct of Thayer at Vienna, Austria, when Thayer was there with the Office of Strategic Services Mission. This informant explained that there was no question in his mind but that Thayer is a homosexual and should not be retained in such a vulnerable position as he was then holding. He explained that if people knew that Thayer was a homosexual in Belgrade and Vienna it is a foregone conclusion that the Russians also have access to this information and at some propitious moment may use it to embarrass the State Department.

In June, 1949, this former official for the U. S. Government at Belgrade, Yugoslavia, was interviewed by another government agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations at which time he refused categorically to make a statement regarding Thayer. He declared that the little he knows concerning Thayer is already well known in Washington. He said that he believed he could add nothing pertinent.

In May, 1949, Washington, D. C., advised that he was assigned in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, while Thayer was there as head of the Military Mission in 1945. He volunteered the information that it was common gossip in the diplomatic circles in Belgrade that Thayer was a homosexual. stated that he had no proof of this allegation.

Information was received in March, 1949, that an individual who has reportedly furnished reliable information to another government agency advised a representative of that agency [Nicholas Nabokoff] in 1948 that Thayer was friendly with another employee of the International Broadcasting Division in New York City, and that was obviously a homosexual. Informant further stated that these two lived together at one time. Informant stated: is very effeminate in his mannerisms and speech and that he greets all the men at IBD with "good morning, dear," or "hello darling" and that even if is not a homosexual, all the male employees of the IBD think he is. Informant stated that the majority of the people in the IBD Office now accept and Thayer as a "pair" and that they are the laughing stock of the office. The informant advised Thayer has been very friendly with a good looking young man named
↑
Report 4-1-49
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yes!

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See FBI
copy of this
summary
in Thayer
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100-360035-34.

An informant of unknown reliability advised a representative of another government agency in June, 1948 that he had no first-hand knowledge that Thayer and were homosexuals. The informant, who admitted he was a homosexual, stated however that while living at New York City, Thayer used to bring men into his bedroom who would stay until two or three o'clock in the morning. [Nabokoff]

An informant of unknown reliability advised a representative of another government agency in 1948 that she recalled Thayer when he had lived at New York City [120 E. 95th St] for six months in about 1946. Informant stated Thayer had lived alone as far as she knew and that she had observed Thayer in the back yard of his home during the summer months and stated she had noticed Thayer had never entertained women but he always had young men, either in groups or singly and although she knew nothing regarding his habits or morals, his association with a large number of young men which did not include women, seemed odd to her. The informant stated "it seemed awfully funny for him to have so many young boy friends and no girl friends or wife."

A confidential informant, of known reliability, advised in March, 1950, of the receipt by a member of Congress of an anonymous letter alleging that Thayer was a homosexual.

In March, 1950, information was received that Senator Joseph R. McCarthy was of the opinion that Thayer "is one of the worst types of degenerates" and that Senator McCarthy intended to call on the Department of State to fire Thayer.

On May 23, 1949, Eric L. Pridonoff, San Marino, California, furnished a signed statement which reads in part as follows:

"...Towards the end of 1945, certain members of the Military Attache's Office of the American Embassy, were engaged in the black market operations. Our Ambassador, Richard C. Patterson, asked me to investigate the extent and detail of the operations. During my thorough investigation, I uncovered the complete operation of two persons connected with the American Embassy, and at the same time, I found out that several months before, while Colonel Thayer and his Mission were still in Yugoslavia, that they were operating in the black market. I am not

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in a position to state that every member of that Mission was involved; however, I can state that Colonel Thayer, personally was buying diamonds and other precious stones and cameras which were being sent for re-sale into Italy and, in some cases, into Cairo, where three to fivefold profit was achieved. I also became aware that Colonel Thayer sometimes directly, and sometimes through some of his henchmen, was purchasing American securities by paying 10 cents on the dollar. It also became apparent to me that unlimited amount of American food supplies, clothing and medical supplies were being sold by the American Military Mission to the populace of Yugoslavia. Most of these sales were made, not for the Yugoslav paper currency, but for the 20-frank gold pieces (gold Napoleons). I have probably talked, personally, to 50 people who gave me detailed information concerning Americans of the Military Mission under Charlie Thayer's command and Charlie Thayer, himself, information dealing with their black market operations. One of Colonel Thayer's men admitted to me that he, personally, made \$3,600 in the black market on food and clothing and automobile parts, and he was only an enlisted man. After careful study of the black market operations in Yugoslavia by the American Military Mission, I have come to a conclusion that a minimum of one-half million dollars was made by Colonel Thayer and members of his Mission, those men who engaged in black market operations..."

During this interview, Mr. Pridonoff volunteered that Thayer when in Yugoslavia had the reputation of being a homosexual and it was common knowledge, according to Mr. Pridonoff, that Thayer was friendly with (phonetic), U. S. Navy, who was also considered to be a homosexual by those in the State Department who knew him.

An informant of unknown reliability advised a representative of the Department of State, according to information received confidentially from the Department of State in March, 1949, that an employee of the International Broadcasting Division, New York City, gave birth to a son out of wedlock on March 19, 1948, at the, New York City, and the attending physician was Dr. J. M. Rowe of New York City. Informant advised that had been referred to this doctor, who was previously unknown to her, by the father of the child, who, informant stated, was married and in the process of getting a divorce. According to the informant, Dr. J. M. Rowe is probably of Russian nationality, however, this is not believed to be his correct name, which informant does not know. Dr. Rowe speaks

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Russian fluently and his practice during the war consisted of certain Russian patients. Informant stated Dr. Rowe had sought a position with the Department of State and had done translation work, the nature of which was unknown to the informant. Informant reported having heard that Dr. Rowe came to this country from China and that he was acquainted with a number of persons in the Foreign Service of the Department of State.

A representative of the Department of State has advised confidentially that Charles Thayer himself acknowledged that he was the father of the child born to [redacted] on March 19, 1948, that he had recommended Dr. Rowe to [redacted] and that Dr. Rowe had been his personal physician and was at one time (late 1948) giving shots to him for his contemplated trip to Europe. Thayer was reported as having stated he knew that Dr. Rowe was treating certain Russian seamen and was being paid for this by the Russian Consulate.

Records of the Board of Health Department, New York, New York, reveal that [redacted] gave birth to a boy on March 19, 1948, at the [redacted] New York City. The identity of the father was not shown.

Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, New York, New York, show that Jack Macev Rowe, 38 Central Park Avenue, New York, New York, who was born March 13, 1902, at Petropoulorsk, Russia, arrived in the United States in November, 1935, from Yokohama, Japan, under the name Jacob M. Rosenbaum, which name was subsequently changed. In his petition for naturalization dated April 17, 1945, Rowe listed the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission as his employer since July, 1942. He became a naturalized citizen on November 7, 1945.

An informant of unknown reliability advised that Dr. Rowe had stated during March, 1949, that he was no longer regularly employed by the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission and only did emergency work for the Commission.

VI. FAVORABLE COMMENTS BY PROMINENT INDIVIDUALS

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VI. FAVORABLE COMMENTS BY PROMINENT INDIVIDUALS

Cavendish W. Cannon

In July, 1949, Cavendish W. Cannon, U. S. Ambassador to Yugoslavia, advised that he first became acquainted with Mr. Thayer in late 1944 or early 1945 while Thayer was serving with OSS, which was after he had already been in the field working with Yugoslav elements. Mr. Cannon pointed out that at that time he was in charge of Yugoslav affairs in the Department of State. He related that Mr. Thayer, then in uniform and with the rank, he believed, of Lieutenant Colonel, had been detailed to the OSS and had been assigned by that organization to this task. He said that Thayer's knowledge of Eastern European conditions made him a natural choice for such work and he never had any indication that Thayer had sought this particular assignment. He said he believed the mission specifically assigned to Thayer by his superiors was to establish contact with Yugoslav elements in Italy and, when possible, to get into Yugoslavia. Mr. Cannon noted that the OSS maintained missions or observation groups with both Yugoslav factions and Mr. Thayer's assignment was to the Tito faction. Under instructions of his superiors he was for a time attached to Tito's headquarters, and his work consequently covered the operations of the Tito faction. Mr. Cannon advised that it was in this connection that he had discussed Yugoslav affairs with Thayer. Thayer's job had been to evaluate the military operations and potentialities of the Tito forces in the war against Germany. According to Mr. Cannon, Thayer made no secret of his belief, based on his observations and investigations, that the Tito forces were more active in the war than were those of Mihailovich. Mr. Cannon said that of course Mr. Thayer "associated with and supported Communists and Communist sympathizers," but that is precisely what he was sent into Italy and Yugoslavia to do and he could not have performed his mission otherwise. At Tito's headquarters, Mr. Cannon commented, Thayer would surely not encounter anyone not "sympathetic to the Communist cause." Mr. Cannon related that whether the mission itself might have been differently conceived by the OSS was not the responsibility of Mr. Thayer. Mr. Cannon related that it was his conclusion that Mr. Thayer's reports became, to his definite knowledge, only one of the many elements in the

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policy discussion in the Tito vs. Mihailovich question, and only in the later stages. Mr. Cannon said that from his own knowledge of the evolution of that controversial policy, the policy of the broadening of aid to Yugoslav guerrillas other than the Mihailovich faction was initiated in early December, 1943. So far as Mr. Cannon knew, Thayer was in no way connected with the affairs of the Yugoslav guerrillas at that time. He said that Thayer may later have approved of the policy which had already been adopted by top-level decision, but he never came across any evidence that Thayer was "influential in turning the support of the United States from Mihailovich to Tito."

Mr. Cannon advised that during the winter of 1948 he had many conversations with Mr. Thayer concerning various Yugoslav personalities whom Thayer had known in Italy or Yugoslavia at which time he found in every instance a perfectly sound, thoroughly "American" attitude in Thayer's discussion of them as individuals and in Thayer's condemnation of their doctrine. Mr. Cannon related that he could state categorically that he had never learned of anything in Mr. Thayer's activity that would give him the slightest ground to question his loyalty to the United States.

William Donovan

William Donovan, Attorney, 2 Wall Street, New York City, who was Director of the Office of Strategic Services during World War II, advised in the Spring of 1949 that Thayer, as a representative of the Office of Strategic Services, was first Deputy Chief and later Chief of the Military Mission to Tito's headquarters for the Office of Strategic Services. Mr. Donovan related that during the course of this Mission and his tour of duty with the Office of Strategic Services, Thayer did exemplary work. He said that there is no question in his mind concerning the loyalty of Thayer to the United States.

Foy D. Kohler

In June, 1949, Mr. Foy D. Kohler, Charge d'Affaires ad interim, American Embassy, Moscow, advised that he had known Thayer for some years, having been associated with him as a fellow student in the National War College during the first semester of the 1946-47 term and having been familiar in general

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with his work since that time in directing the Voice of America broadcasts. Mr. Kohler stated that during that time he had occasion to discuss with Thayer and to correspond with him with regard to his ideas about the Soviet Union and Communism in general. He stated he had found Thayer's views to be anti-Soviet and anti-Communist. Mr. Kohler related that he has no question as to Thayer's complete loyalty to the United States.

Walter Thurston

On June 10, 1949, Walter Thurston, Ambassador to Mexico, stated he could not for a moment believe that the loyalty of Thayer was open to serious question. Ambassador Thurston said that while Thayer was not an intimate friend, he held him in high personal regard and had trust in him.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

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Another government agency has advised that in 1948 P. A. Pirogov and A. P. Barsov, two Soviet flyers, had defected from the Soviet Union and had been brought to the United States. Barsov has since been returned to the Soviet Union at his own request. In connection with his official duties, Thayer was assigned the custody of Pirogov by the Under Secretary of State. Information was received in 1949 that Pirogov had a reputation for talking too much and drinking too much. He was reputed to have made indecent advances to women and was not conducting himself in a manner to bring credit to himself or the Russian people. In connection with this information, Mr. Thayer submitted a memorandum concerning Pirogov in which he advised that Pirogov had been behaving in exemplary restraint and was a loyal friend to the United States.

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By memorandum dated October 4, 1949, the Immigration and Naturalization Service advised that P. A. Pirogov and A. P. Barsov, two Soviet airmen who deserted from the Soviet Army, were temporarily admitted to the United States. The Immigration Service advised that Barsov had returned to the Soviet Union at his own request. The Immigration and Naturalization Service advised that Pirogov was being permitted to remain in the United States for a longer period as the Department of State had requested that he be permitted to remain. With this memorandum the Immigration and Naturalization Service enclosed a copy of an agreement signed by representatives of the Department of State, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service. This agreement was to the effect that Pirogov was in the custody of Mr. Charles W. Thayer, acting for the Department of State, under certain conditions. By memorandum dated October 7, 1949, the Immigration and Naturalization Service was advised that Thayer had been reported through various sources as having been pro-Tito while assigned to Yugoslavia during the recent war as a representative of OSS. At the time this memorandum was furnished to Immigration and Naturalization Service information was furnished verbally to INS concerning Thayer's alleged perversion and illegitimate child.

An informant of unknown reliability advised a representative of another government agency during the period May to June, 1948, that Thayer married Maria Patrucci in October, 1945, at Vienna, explaining that she is the daughter of the former Italian Ambassador to Croatia and when the war came, her father, the Ambassador, was interned and Thayer was instrumental in getting him released. The informant stated that Mrs. Thayer had separated from, or divorced, Thayer and was now (June, 1948) back in Rome.

In July, 1946, a confidential informant of known reliability furnished a copy of a bulletin entitled "News Round Up No. 1" which sets out in short sentences the activities of individuals who are now residing in the United States who have worked at some time in Russia. The name Charlie Thayer appears under a heading "In Washington: With the War Department:." Concerning this bulletin, which is undated, the following information appears: "This is the first news round up of Moscow 'alumni.' Subsequent issues will depend entirely upon your contributions. So don't forget to keep the clearing house informed. Address all communications to Paul Hall, 1940 Andrews, New York 53, New York."

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Although Charles Wheeler Thayer was the head of the Voice of America in New York, no investigation concerning him was requested by the State Department under the provisions of Public Law 402, 80th Congress. In February, 1949, the State Department advised that Thayer was exempted from investigation under Public Law 402 inasmuch as the Legal Division of the State Department was of the opinion that inasmuch as the Congressional Act states that those persons appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate need not be investigated, no investigation was necessary concerning Thayer. This exemption was applied to Thayer, a Foreign Service Officer of the State Department, since Thayer was appointed as a Foreign Service Officer by the White House and was confirmed by the Senate.

[REDACTED]

A confidential informant who proved to be unreliable, formerly of Russia, advised in December, 1948, that she knew one "Tania," last name unknown, who in the informant's opinion was obtaining information for the NKVD in Russia. Informant's husband recalled that a girl named "Tania," whose last name he could not recall, was a girl friend of Charles Thayer, "Third Secretary of the State Department and Administrative Officer." Tatiana Anaposenko married Dr. John F. Waldron on February 19, 1944, in Moscow while Dr. Waldron was in Russia in an official capacity for the U. S. Government. Waldron reportedly made the statement that while in Russia he was at one time surveilled by his present wife, and that she was interned for a short period for refusing to inform on Waldron.

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